

The Role of the Hungarian Civil Society in Development Assistance and Aid Effectiveness

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
Executive Summary.....	3
1. Introduction.....	5
2. The context	5
2.1. Prehistory and its implications.....	5
2.2. The emergence of the Hungarian NGDO sector.....	8
3. Surveying the Hungarian NGDO sector	9
3.1. The profile of Hungarian NGDOs	9
3.1.1. <i>Faith-based humanitarian organizations</i>	9
3.1.2. <i>“Classical” NGDOs?</i>	10
3.1.3. <i>Educational organizations</i>	11
3.1.4. <i>On the margins of the Hungarian NGDO sector</i>	11
3.2. Involvement in development activities	12
3.3. NGDOs’ financial and human resources	17
4. Understanding the challenges	20
4.1. Lack of political support.....	20
4.2. Lack of public awareness.....	21
4.3. Unequal relations with “Old” donors’ NGDOs	22
4.4. Difficulties of supranational interest representation	23
5. Conclusions and Recommendations	23
5.1. Increasing the political profile of ODA through policy coherence.....	23
5.2. Increasing public support for international development activities	23
5.3. Leveling the relationship between NGDOs in old and new member-states	24
5.4. Fostering cooperation with the private sector.....	24
List of References	25
List of Annexes.....	27
Annex 1: NGDO Database of the Research.....	28
Annex 2: Survey Questionnaire in English.....	30
Annex 3: Summary Report in English.....	41
Annex 4: List of Participants – Focus Group Meeting	41
Annex 5: List of Participants – Task Force Meeting	422

Executive Summary

Governments all over the world, including Hungary, subscribed to the principles outlined in the Accra Agenda for Action (2008) and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (2011), where it is stipulated that governments should broaden their “country level policy dialogue on development” and “engage with civil society organizations” in order to build effective partnerships. The documents reflect a consensus that development is “most effective when they fully harness the energy, skills and experience of all development actors – bilateral and multilateral donors, global funds, civil society organizations (CSOs) and the private sector.”

This research is based on the understanding that in order to achieve these goals national governments must work actively with all constituencies, particularly civil society and the private sector. To understand the extent of cooperation and collaboration between these sectors our research addressed the following key players: non-governmental development organizations (NGDOs), commercial businesses, and government agencies. The present paper deals with the first group of actors and its objective is to map the role of the Hungarian non-governmental development organizations in international development work and how, if at all, they contribute to shaping the national Official Development Assistance (ODA) policies, strategies, and activities.

The findings presented here are based on several research tools. The desk-based research, where both primary and secondary sources were consulted, provided us with the context and the knowledge that there is no accurate and up to date database of CSOs active in the field of international development and humanitarian aid. The second step of our research was thus to create a comprehensive database with the relevant actors in the field. As a result we now have a database of approximately 60 NGDOs. The third phase of our research consisted of an online survey which we distributed to all previously identified NGDOs. There were 29 complete responses and based on the information provided in the survey we now have a more comprehensive picture of the international development sector in Hungary. We were able to draw a profile of the NGDOs based on the scope and extent of their work as well as the geographical coverage. The surveys were complemented with in-depth semi structured interviews with selected participants. The information acquired through the surveys and interviews was then refined in a focus-group discussion where participants were development experts, academic researchers, as well as civil society and government representatives. Finally, our preliminary findings were shared and tested in a national task force which brought together NGDO experts, practitioners, and members of the academia.

The results of our research indicate that there is a stable and capable sector of NGDOs in Hungary with many of the organizations ready to take part in international development activities. Out of our 29 respondents, 27 organizations participate or have previously participated in international development, with 22 saying that their organization is currently leading or has led development projects in the past. Over the past 5 years these NGDOs have carried out development or humanitarian work in 76 countries.

Nevertheless, the civil sector's effective involvement in Hungary's international development cooperation is very limited, due to reasons rooted mostly in an unfavorable political and societal context. In particular, our research found that the main challenges for the sector are: **the lack of political support** – development issues weigh very little within political circles, and governments have shown minimal interest throughout the past decade to formulate policies or strategies to operationalize ODA; **lack of public awareness** – there is little interest and support for development activities outside of Hungary, particularly in the context of an economic crisis and when it comes to “far away” countries; **unequal relations with “Old” donors’ NGDOs** – the economic downturn that hit the European Union led to ODA budget cuts which heightened the competition for the already scarce resources and sharpened the inequalities in the capacities and resources of old and new member-states’ NGDOs; and finally, **the difficulties of supranational interest representation** – the lack of financial and human resources of the Hungarian NGDOs translates into Hungary's underrepresentation in the expert groups as well as the leadership of, among others, European NGDO platform organizations.

These major challenges require further investigation and remedial action. The recommendations we propose include:

- Increasing the political profile of Official Development Assistance through policy coherence
- Increasing public support for international development activities through long-term investment into education instead of short-term awareness raising campaigns
- Leveling the relationship between NGDOs in old and new member-states through incentives for cooperation and enabling new member-states’ organizations for efficient interest representation
- Fostering cooperation between the NGDO and the private sector

1. Introduction

Like most countries in the Central East European region, the trajectory and the current state of development and humanitarian aid activities in Hungary are largely determined by two considerations, on the one hand, the legacy of a heavily politicized donorship practice from the socialist era, and on other, a relatively swift transition from recipient to donor in the post-socialist period. After almost a decade of “new” donorship there is a stable sector of Nongovernmental Development Organizations (NGDOs) in Hungary. However, their participation in Official Development Assistance (ODA) and their contribution to aid effectiveness is constrained by a societal and policy context that still bears the imprint of this history.

This research found that a significant and, arguably, sufficient number of civil society organizations (CSOs) are ready to play a substantial role in within the official development aid activities. Certainly, with a relatively high number of NGDOs and an active NGDO platform, with up-to-date knowledge of international norms of aid practice and the Hungarian policy background, as well as. membership and participation in EU-level NGDO platforms, the Hungarian NGDOs are on a par with other new member states (NMS) in the region, and a few can be compared to Western European donors as well. However, there does seem to be a perception amongst both NGDOs and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that Hungary is falling behind Czech or Slovak ODA practices and that civil society involvement in ODA is more limited.¹ The present paper will trace the reasons for such limits and point to potential ways in which they could be overcome. In addition, the aim is to provide a comprehensive and up to date account of the sector in terms of size, activities, countries, and funding.

The paper draws on the various research tools. It used various public databases to compile a comprehensive list of CSOs currently engaged in international development and/or humanitarian aid. This was then used to distribute an online survey, followed by nine in-depth interviews with NGDO representatives, interviews conducted in writing, a Focus Group, and a Task Force meeting. The latter two provided the space for government representatives, NGDO staff, and academic experts to discuss the status and challenges within international development, as well as the preliminary findings of our research.

The first section offers a brief description of the prehistory and current context of Hungarian NGDOs’ operation. It then presents the different types of development organizations, their involvement in international development, and the findings from the survey of their financial and human resources. The penultimate section outlines the most prominent challenges whilst the final part outlines several suggestions to potentially counter these. Various additional supporting materials are attached as Annexes.

2. The context

2.1. Prehistory and its implications

One of the most constraining elements of the socialist legacy in the region is an apathy, or even negative public attitude towards international development (Grimm and Harmer 2005, Szent-Iványi 2009). This

¹ Focus Group meeting.

seems to be particularly valid for Hungary: according to a recent survey on Europeans' attitude toward development aid, the Hungarian public appears as one of the least supportive towards helping poor people in developing countries (Special Eurobarometer 2011a). The proportion of those who think it is "important" or "very important" to help poor people in developing countries is the lowest in Hungary, while significant minority thinks that in the present economic crisis, the EU should freeze development aid (43%) or should not increase its amount despite an earlier pledge to do so (23%). While the percentage of those in favor of providing development aid to worse off parts of the world is still relatively high (75%), the results seem to resonate with activists' and experts' view that people in Hungary prefer to focus on domestic issues and international aid is not a significant concern (see e.g. Vári 2007a).² According to one prominent NGDO, the African-Hungarian Union, the Hungarian public is uninterested in international issues generally and the plight of poor people in "distant" continents particularly. Another group, Baptist Aid, noted that in West-European countries, development aid has a longer history with higher public engagement, and an NGDO sector which is much more established than in Central and Eastern Europe.³

Although, like other countries of the Soviet bloc, Hungary was an active donor to several developing countries during the Cold War, as SáraVári (2007a) notes, public awareness about international development issues was non-existent in this period.⁴ While it supported developing countries in the name of international solidarity (North-Korea, Vietnam, Cuba, Angola), scientific-technological cooperation (Brazil, Peru, India), or purely business-oriented considerations – according to ideological modulations – beyond the political-military aid provided to leftist decolonization movements, the country seldom engaged in development cooperation in the classic sense (Suha 2011). Despite the country's relatively short period as an aid-recipient country, Hungarian society still manifests a sentiment of aid-dependency (Vári 2007a.). In the public view, EU-accession primarily meant access to new financial resources and the opportunity to approach old member states' living standard. At the same time, and perhaps due to the transitory recipient status, for most people Hungary has not yet reached the level of economic development where it can, or should, support other countries.⁵ Coupled with decision-makers' convictions that the region still lags behind old member-states', the allocation of large funds for international development can appear difficult to justify (Szent-Iványi 2009; see also Paragi, Szent-Iványi, Vári 2007).

One additional explanation can be derived from immigration trends. Hungary is a transit rather than a target country, which means that people are less exposed to concerns of developing countries and their expatriates (Vári 2007a). Likewise, popular perception and often in the perception of decision-makers

² According to 23% of the respondents, providing aid to developing countries is "not important". Although support in 2009 was much higher: 86% (Special Eurobarometer 2011b, 20), the previous two surveys (2007 and 2009) seem to be largely in line with the findings of the most recent one, reaffirming the points above.

³ Personal communication.

⁴ According to Szent-Iványi (2009, 183), in the 1970s and 1980s Hungary's ODA spending exceeded the 0.7% of the national income on several occasions (see also Leiszen 2013).

⁵ According to Szent-Iványi (2009), re-launching of Polish international aid activities was an important instrument of the government in demonstrating that the country had completed its transition to market economy. The Polish MFA's campaign of the period addressed the negative public sentiment toward international aid by emphasizing that Poland does indeed belong to the developed part of the world: "Poland is paradise for 1.2 billion people in the world" (Vári 2007a, see also Belgian Development Cooperation 2005, 8).

too, Hungary's geopolitical position spares it from many of the security risks emanating from the developing world's weak or failed states (Szent-Iványi 2009).

Symptomatic of all these characteristics is the absence of development issues from almost all levels of education (Vári 2007a). While a relatively high number of NGOs specialize in global education, the integration of such material into official curricula has not yet been achieved.⁶ Similarly, despite a rather successful ODA module funded by EuropeAid,⁷ an MFA-funded design of an ODA course and the publication of a corresponding textbook at Corvinus University, Budapest, there is no ODA program (BA or MA) available in higher education.⁸ As for the general public, while there certainly are occasional TV-programs, news features, and even regular radio programs focusing on developing countries, these concerns remain marginal in the mainstream media. Several NGOs have taken up this challenge and design activities and events to bring the cultures of, among others, African countries closer to the Hungarian public.⁹ However, as the coordinator for the Foundation for Africa's noted, most who attend such events are already open to questions of development or the African continent, while the uninterested majority is much harder to reach.¹⁰ According to the Anthropolis Foundation which has a strong global education profile, these events and campaigns are often wasteful and even reaffirm stereotypes about developing countries and poverty.¹¹

On the level of foreign policy and the selection of ODA target countries, these characteristics are compounded by the fact that, without a colonialist past, Hungary does not have the ties to developing countries that many older member states do and, correspondingly, both its political and economic relations with these countries are contingent and minimal (Szent-Iványi 2009; Suha 2011). As a consequence, there is an evident discrepancy between official priority countries and the focus of many Hungarian NGOs, with the latter apparently more in line with the common European aim to increase the support of the least developed countries and in particular that of Africa.¹² More generally too, as Judit Kiss (2008, 386) notes, the issue of ODA is not embedded within Hungary's foreign relations and, accordingly, lacks proper attention and position within the country's politics.

This is also reflected in an overly decentralized institutional structure formulated during EU-accession negotiations between 2001 and 2003 (Kiss 2007). Although the MFA and its Department of International Development and Humanitarian Aid (NEFE-FO) has the main responsibility of formulating and coordinating policy, a large proportion of ODA activities are managed by line ministries and the distribution of labor between these actors remains unclear. It is hardly a surprise that

⁶ In fact, according to the representative of one such NGO, during the past few years the prospect of introducing global education into primary school curricula has diminished further.

⁷ The EuropeAid project was granted to the Hungarian Baptist Aid and realized by the Corvinus University (Beáta Paragi, co-designer and lecturer of the module, email correspondence).

⁸ This is in spite of the fact that the launch of an ODA program was a more or less articulate element of the CIDA and UNDP capacity building projects provided to Hungary in the 2000s (Balázs Szent-Iványi, co-designer and lecturer of the module, email correspondence, 29 January 2012; see also MFA 2004, 6).

⁹ See for example activities of the [Foundation for Africa](#) or the [Ebony African Cultural, Art, and Human Rights Association](#).

¹⁰ Foundation for Africa, interview.

¹¹ Anthropolis Foundation, interview.

¹² While the most recent [foreign policy strategy](#) articulates a governmental intention of "global opening", including an increased attention to sub-Saharan Africa, NGOs and experts with an African focus have been unsuccessful in pushing the continent more into the fore of ODA policies (but see HAND 2012b; Morenth and Tarrósy 2011).

the ODA obligations of the OECD and the EU have continued to pose major challenges to the Hungarian foreign affairs administration.¹³ Questions of development aid and candidate states' preparedness in this field did not feature prominently on the agenda of accession negotiations either. As Beáta Paragi notes, this lack of attention dawned on both Brussels and the new member states as a "mutual surprise" (Paragi, Szent-Iványi, Vári 2007, 157). By way of "compensation", the European Commission provided funds for knowledge transfer and capacity building programs, involving both governmental and civil society organizations (see Szent-Iványi and Tétényi 2012).

2.2. The emergence of the Hungarian NGDO sector

Indeed, it is largely through such capacity building programs as the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) Official Development Assistance to Central Europe (ODACE), that in the early 2000s there emerged a small but relatively stable sector of civic organizations engaged in international development and humanitarian aid (Paragi, Szent-Iványi, Vári 2007). Due to the very limited possibilities for civil organization during the socialist period, there was virtually no past experience to draw from, especially for those without a church affiliation. During the decades of socialism, international charity activities in the "nongovernmental" sector were carried out by the Hungarian Solidarity Committee and its issue-specific funds created on the occasion of natural or man-made disasters, the Patriotic Popular Front (*HazafiasNépfront*), the National Council of Hungarian Women (*Magyar NőkOrszágosTanácsa*) or the National Association of Hungarian Journalists (*Magyar ÚjságírókOrszágosSzövetsége*). Their campaigns, however, were limited to occasional humanitarian aid provided to Vietnamese orphans, for example (Paragi, Szent-Iványi, Vári 2007).

EU-accession and generous funding programs promised to remove ODA activities from the sole purview of government. As an important step in fostering diversification of actors and roles, coalescing around efforts at raising public awareness about global development and making an impact on strategy and policy making, in 2002 the umbrella organization Hungarian Association for Development and Humanitarian Aid (HAND) was formed. While its founders and participants had great enthusiasm and willpower, the establishment of HAND's was neither spontaneous nor a bottom up process. Instead, it was part and parcel of the above mentioned Canadian capacity building program.¹⁴ There were 12 full and 5 observer founder members, currently there are 16 full members, while the BOCS Foundation (Brain Organization for Civilization of Sustainability) participates as an observer (see also Trialog 2005).

The membership of HAND is rather heterogeneous. Beyond environmental and volunteer sending organizations, associations fostering intercultural understanding, and NGOs promoting civic activism, there are "only" 5-6 member organizations whose primary focus is international development and humanitarian aid (see also Trialog 2005). To be sure, the overlap can enable cooperation and diversity need not turn into incoherence. Over the past decade, HAND has become the single most important civil society actor in the Hungarian development scene. Beyond representing many of the major NGDOs, the organization is active in regional and European NGDO platforms such as the Visegrad Four and CONCORD Europe. Their AidWatch Working Group prepares Hungary's country pages in

¹³For a more detailed discussion see Leiszen (2013).

¹⁴Anthropolis Foundation representative, interview,; ICDT representative, Task Force meeting,. See also Trialog (2005).

CONCORD's yearly reports, as well as the Hungarian Aid Watch report since 2007. Yet, illustrating the limited influence of civil actors, the majority of the "12 points" that academic expert Judit Kiss recommended in the first report in 2007 linger on in 2012 (Hodosi 2012, 16-17).

3. Surveying the Hungarian NGDO sector

HAND and its member organizations do not encompass the whole of the NGDO sector in Hungary. Several major church-affiliated humanitarian organizations are not members although some were members in the past and others are in the process of becoming members. Furthermore, although there are some overlaps, there is a group of Africa-focused organizations that formulated their own platform, the Hungarian Africa Platform (Magyar Afrika Platform).¹⁵ In addition, government reports of ODA funds allocated to CSOs list organizations that are members of neither platforms and do not appear to be active in the lobbying activities of the sector.

To the best of our knowledge a list of CSOs active in development and humanitarian aid had not been compiled, and it seemed useful to create a more comprehensive database. In compiling this, we used the following resources: the searchable online database of the Court of Registration, the list of 1% tax-pledge eligible CSOs maintained by the Nonprofit Foundation,¹⁶ the Central Statistical Office's list of nonprofit organizations, membership lists of platform organizations (HAND, MAP), the MFA's yearly ODA reports, Trialog's country-specific NGDO database, and the Hungary-chapter of a global directory of development organizations.¹⁷ We identified nearly 70 organizations that engage in activities related to development or humanitarian aid.¹⁸ Our aim was to include not only those organizations involved in ODA, but those whose activities are located beyond Hungary's strictly understood ODA-activities, for example, those operating in Romania and those active in capacity building for Hungarian CSOs and others that are less integrated within existing NGDO networks.¹⁹

With around 10-13 percent of the database turning out to be inactive or irrelevant at the initial stage of making contact, our survey sample was reduced to around 60 organizations, out of which altogether 29 completed the survey.²⁰ While some declined to fill out the survey because they thought it irrelevant for their activities, others said they lacked time and capacity during the end-of-year crunch-time. However, a nearly 50 percent response rate still provides a good picture of the Hungarian NGDO sector.

3.1. The profile of Hungarian NGDOs

3.1.1. Faith-based humanitarian organizations

As noted above, the composition of civil society organizations working in development and humanitarian aid is very diverse and the number of NGDOs *per se* is rather small. The most visible and relatively well-funded civil actors are faith-based organizations²¹ whose development work is

¹⁵ However, according to one of the member organizations, this platform is largely inactive today.

¹⁶ Available at www.nonprofit.hu

¹⁷ Available at www.devdir.org

¹⁸ See *Annex I*.

¹⁹ That is, in development and humanitarian activities provided to Development Assistance Countries as defined by OECD.

²⁰ The questionnaire was conducted online with www.surveymizmo.com. It was open between 5 October and 20 December 2012.

²¹ While these organizations are (closely or more loosely) institutionally affiliated to a particular church, their development and humanitarian aid activities are not religious in nature.

complemented with emergency humanitarian aid activities²² and who also operate as in the domestic sphere. This provides one of the primary lines of fragmentation within the Hungarian NGO-sector, with these large organizations on the one side, and a very heterogeneous group on the other.²³

As representatives of these organizations themselves acknowledge, they are in a more advantageous position than the smaller NGOs, for example, being able to participate in pre-given international networks.²⁴ According to one of Baptist Aid's coordinators, organizations of the same church in different countries build cooperative projects on the relationship of trust that the shared denomination provides.²⁵ Similarly, they are much more experienced in fundraising targeted at private individuals, as their primary audience is made up of the members of their respective religious communities.²⁶ Furthermore, having garnered a substantial body of experience over the past couple of decades, organizations such as the Baptist Aid, the Hungarian Interchurch Aid or the Hungarian Maltese Charity Organization are very much in the forefront of the MFA's attention.²⁷ These NGOs are able to carry out projects in many countries, which allow them to draw on active connections when designing and implementing further projects.²⁸ It is hardly surprising that these faith-based humanitarian organizations can secure EuropeAid funding, either as project leaders or as partners with old member states' development agencies.²⁹ Finally, illustrating their self-standing nature, while some of them are (active or less so) members of HAND (namely the Hungarian Maltese Charity Organization and Caritas Hungarica), others (e.g. Baptist Aid or Hungarian Interchurch Aid) do not find it essential to join the NGO platform, partly because they are members of international umbrella organizations (such as CONCORD) through their mother organizations or networks (e.g. EU-CORD).³⁰

3.1.2. "Classical" NGOs?

If NGOs are civic organizations engaged primarily in activities related to international development (Trialog 2003), in Hungary this definition applies to only a handful of organizations operating in far fewer countries than the faith based groups.³¹ Signaling a regional characteristic of the CSO sector, members of Western NGOs are usually perplexed about the small international development segment of civil society in Central-East Europe relative to the plethora of domestically focused CSOs.³² Nevertheless, there are development organizations that have been successfully operating for several years now. Most are present in two-three countries, where they typically have one or two

²² 4 out of 7 organizations who responded in our survey that they have previously worked in the area of emergency relief and reconstruction were large faith-based organizations. (See also *Annex 3*).

²³ Péter Nizák, civil society expert, Open Society Institute, discussion notes, Task Force meeting. Importantly, the main line of division is not between faith-based and "secular" NGOs, but those having a humanitarian profile and those lacking thereof.

²⁴ Interview, Baptist Aid coordinators and Task Force meeting.

²⁵ Discussion notes, Task Force meeting (31 January 2013).

²⁶ Péter Nizák, Open Society Institute, Discussion notes, Task Force meeting, Terre des Hommes representative; see also Trialog (2005). On NGO-funding, see section 3.3. below.

²⁷ Focus Group meeting.

²⁸ Among our respondents, the average number of countries in which they have been active over the past five years is 8.5 in case of the four faith-based humanitarian organizations, where for the whole survey sample this average is 5.1.

²⁹ Baptist Aid and the Hungarian Interchurch Aid can be good examples here too.

³⁰ Baptist Aid coordinators, interview. Yet, according to the representative of a smaller HAND-member, without the major humanitarian organizations, HAND has much less legitimacy.

³¹ According to a Task Force participant, hardly any one of HAND's members could be characterized as a purely international development organization; many of them are much more active in awareness raising or education..

³² Task Force meeting.

projects run over an extended period. In our survey, such is the work of the AfrikáértAlapítvány (Foundation for Africa), the MezőtlábAlapítvány (Barefoot Foundation), and the TAITA Foundation for African Children, each of which operates an orphanage or multiple orphanages and associated schools and kindergartens. Thus, theirs are ongoing undertakings instead of distinct development projects – a feature that, in turn, limits the extent to which they can secure ODA funding. This is particularly true for the Foundation for Africa, since – as opposed to TAITA’s case where the allocated ODA projects were managed by the Hungarian Embassy in Nairobi – Hungary has no diplomatic mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo where the Foundation operates, and therefore the MFA does not include the country in its funding calls.³³

While these three organizations approximate the characteristics of Western NGOs, there are others that engage in publically funded development projects, such as DemNet: Foundation for Development of Democratic Rights. There are additional small organizations that do not carry out development work in recipient countries themselves but allocate funds to affiliated individuals or organizations operating in the recipient country. One example is the Third World Foundation, a small faith-based organization that, since 1991, has been collecting donations in Hungary and among members of the Bokor [bush] Christian Base Community to support the charitable and educational activities of specific pastors in India and Argentina.³⁴ As former HAND-coordinator and NGO expert Réka Balogh noted when summarizing the findings of HAND’s recent research on CSO development effectiveness, a significant proportion of the twenty NGOs that she interviewed do not effectively work abroad.³⁵

3.1.3. Educational organizations

A relatively large number of those with a predominantly domestic focus are educational organizations; foundations that work towards intercultural understanding, changing perceptions of immigration and global poverty, and popularizing environmental consciousness. While rarely involved in development projects directly, NGOs such as the Artemisszió Foundation, Anthropolis, the BOCS Foundation or the National Society of Conservationists are, or could be, the principal actors of raising the profile of international development in Hungary. Demonstrating the significance of this activity area, with its 10-12 members, the Global Education Work Group is the largest of HAND’s task forces. To be sure, this distribution of profiles is very much the product of the limited resources and scheme of public funding. According to several experts and NGO employees interviewed for this research, the available ODA funds are disproportionally geared towards awareness raising projects.³⁶

3.1.4. On the margins of the Hungarian NGO sector

The final group within the Hungarian NGO sector are small-scale organizations that engage in international development or humanitarian aid, but are not integrated into the institutional structures and

³³ Foundation for Africa coordinator, interview and TAITA coordinator, interview. While there is no written rule to this effect, in previous years the pattern has been to fund projects in countries where Hungary has diplomatic representation. However, the call for 2012 (published in February 2013) includes the Democratic Republic of Congo as well (MFA 2013).

³⁴ Third World Foundation representative.

³⁵ Task Force Meeting.

³⁶ Research notes, HAND Presidential meeting and Task Force meeting. Conversely, according to NGO expert Réka Balogh, such bias towards awareness raising is only characteristic of EuropeAid funding (see further below); this activity has not been featured among the MFA’s calls for applications for several years now (email correspondence).

lobbying activities of the field. Some are CSOs that tend to work in Hungary, but have successfully applied for public funding for the occasional international projects. A case in point would be the Magosfa Foundation whose program of education for sustainability in Bosnia and Herzegovina has received both EuropeAid (in 2007) and governmental ODA funding (in 2011), or the FaipariTudományosEgyesület (Scientific Association of Forestry), whose biomass project benefiting rural communities in Vietnam was twice allocated Hungarian ODA funds. Others include those whose work is directed at helping transborder Hungarian communities, most of whom now live within the European Union, thus placing such activities beyond the ODA framework. In our sample, a typical example of the latter is HELP NemzetköziOrvosiAlapítvány (HELP International Medical Foundation), that regularly delivers humanitarian aid and medical equipment to poor communities in Transylvania, Romania. Finally, a different kind of marginality characterizes international organizations that have an office in Budapest. While the Hungarian Committee of the UNICEF is part of the NGDO platform, it clearly does not function as an NGDO. On the other hand, the Hungarian branch of Relief International operates the Human Resources activities of that organization, but there are no development activities carried out from Hungary.³⁷ A similar case is that of Terre des Hommes – an international NGO promoting children’s rights – for which the relevance of the Hungarian office is mostly administrative and as such, they are not integrated in the Hungarian NGDO field.³⁸

3.2. Involvement in development activities

In what ways and to what extent do CSOs in Hungary take part in international development and related activities? To the question whether they participate or have previously participated in international development, 27 organizations answered positively and 22 respondents said that their organization is currently leading or has led a development project in the past.³⁹ In turn, when defining the nature of their work in terms of the Millennium Development Goals, the following distribution of activities takes shape:

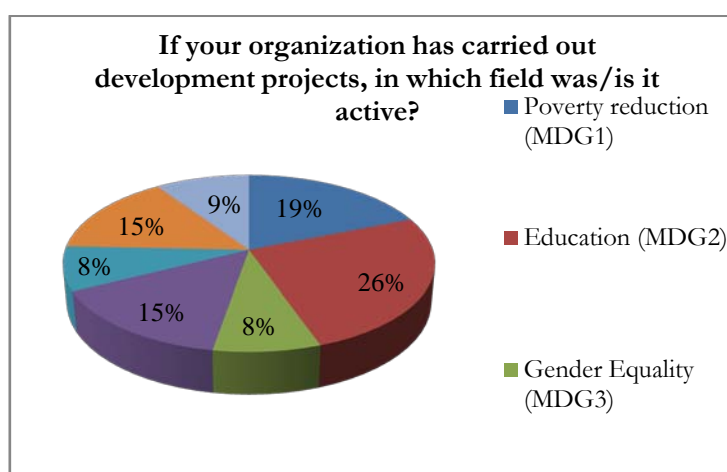


Figure 1: NGDOs’ activities defined in terms of the Millennium Development Goals

³⁷ Relief International representative, personal communication.

³⁸ Terre des Hommes representative, Skype interview.

³⁹ As our survey did not ask here whether leading a development project implied that the organization itself carried out a project in a recipient country, this response has to be qualified by the preliminary finding of HAND’s cited above study: a significant proportion of Hungarian NGDOs do not effectively work abroad.

Emphasizing the prevalence of awareness raising among NGDO profiles, the most frequent area of activity is that of education (MDG2), with 19 organizations placing their work in this category. The second most frequent area of poverty reduction (14 respondents), includes all of the faith-based humanitarian organizations as well as the Africa-focused secular NGDOs.

Regarding their **participation in ODA** activities, less than half of our sample, 14 organizations responded that their work has already been funded by the MFA. Most frequently, this refers to grants for autonomous realization of a development or humanitarian aid project (9 cases), while more than a third of the cases (5) involve contributions towards national ODA law or policy-making. More than a quarter of ODA-grantee organizations (4) received funding as project partners while around a fifth (3) provided consultancy work or carried out national public awareness raising campaigns (3). Except for the Hungarian Reformed Church Aid (which received funding as a partner organization of a development project), all the major humanitarian organizations have cooperated with the MFA in the autonomous realization of a development project. Beyond them, BOCS Foundation, DemNet, the International Center for Democratic Transition (ICDT), and TAITA Foundation for African Children reported to have received funding (including awareness raising, consultancy, as well as the realization of development projects), while the remaining positive responses come from three smaller organizations for individual projects.

In terms of **geographical location**, over the past five years Hungarian NGDOs have carried out development or humanitarian aid work in 76 countries. As mentioned, while major humanitarian organizations are typically able to realize development or deliver humanitarian aid in ten or more countries, NGDOs in Hungary have been active in between 2-4 countries. In our effort to generate and distribute a more comprehensive picture of the international development sector in Hungary, we created the following map of NGDO's work.⁴⁰

⁴⁰ The interactive map will be available on the CPS website and the subsequently on the webpages of HAND. The green circles signal the presence of a Hungarian NGDO. The larger the circle, the more projects were carried out in the particular country.



Figure 2: Hungarian NGOs' work around the world

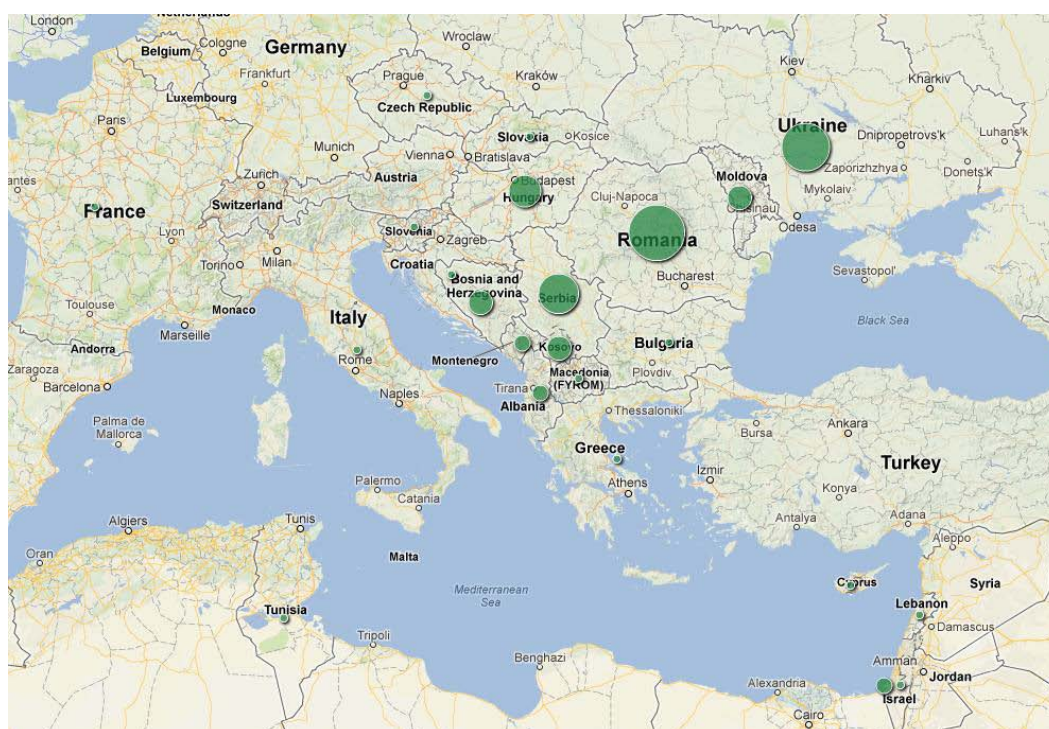


Figure 3: Hungarian NGOs' work in Europe

Although it may be the outcome of limited resources available to the sector, beyond their development and humanitarian work, most Hungarian NGOs engage seek to popularize the issue of international development among both the general public and decision-makers. The vast majority (26) of respondents take part in efforts to raise **public awareness** of the issue. The most frequent (65.4%) form that such

efforts take are ad hoc, occasional events and media appearances, but regular press releases and newsletters also feature high among methods (50%). Most organizations (61.5%) target young people as the primary audience, but much of their efforts are also directed at opinion leaders, media personalities, educators, governmental representatives and politicians (34.6% respectively). Most organizations target their campaigns on the national level (73.1%) with local and county-level being the second most frequent (46.2%), but the European level is not much further behind it (42.3%). Just 30.8% of respondents focus their awareness raising efforts on the international level.

As the best indicator of their success in raising awareness, most respondents chose the transformation of the public opinion/debate (34.6%), although many thought the increase in the number of active NGOs was also a good indicator of increased awareness (26.9%), while the increase in the organization's material resources was the third most frequently cited indicator (15.4%). As reasons for not taking up awareness raising, a respondent from a small faith-based organization referred to the limited amount of money they are able to raise, and their wish to dedicate most to the supported project with the least amount of overhead expenses. On the other hand, the international aid coordinator of a much larger faith-based organization highlighted the controversial public attitude towards international aid: in times of economic crisis, people ask, why help abroad when there is enough poverty within the country?

Among those NGOs who do carry out development and humanitarian aid projects in a developing country, twelve organizations reported to have engaged in **awareness raising activities in recipient countries**. Interestingly, the major humanitarian organizations did not generally do so.⁴¹ Most often (11 cases), awareness raising takes the form of training and education, but regular or occasional publications are also popular means for spreading development related information (7 cases). Typically, awareness raising in recipient countries is targeted at governmental and municipal decision-makers as well as professional associations or occupational groups (8 responses respectively), but young people (5 responses) and the representatives of the business sector (4 responses) are also frequently targeted. According to our respondents, the best indicator of the success of their awareness raising work in recipient countries would be the increase in the number of local CSOs active in the area of development (5 responses), while an increase in their own resources (both human and financial), and the transformation of the public discourse around development would also signify the success of their efforts (3 responses). The majority of our respondents (17), however, do not carry out awareness raising activities in the countries they operate in. The main reason is that they lack sufficient resources and capacities (5 responses), others report that their local partners carry out this work (3), while according to a few other respondents, such campaigns are unnecessary and, in a sensitive political context, can even be dangerous. When asked whether they are planning to undertake awareness raising activities in the future, only one out of the 17 organizations responded positively, while seven could not tell for certain.

Most organizations acknowledge that the weak legitimacy of international development does not solely lie with the lack of popular commitment to helping people in developing countries. In order to counter such negative sentiments, much stronger political support needs to be garnered. However, when asked whether they participate in initiatives to change ODA policies, only a little more than half (16) of our

⁴¹ Or do so only on occasion, when the funding scheme of the particular project requires (Baptist Aid coordinator, personal communication).

respondents answered positively. The majority of these refer to their limited capacities or their marginal position in relation to ODA policies, while others said that they feel they are not being listened to. Many of these explanations frame advocacy and “actual” development work in terms of either-or: if one chooses to do development, advocacy is no longer available as an option. Such views might explain the reluctance to taking up advocacy work in the future: two respondents said their organization plans to engage in advocacy, three knew they would not, while eight respondents were undecided.

Those who do manage to direct resources at advocacy most typically characterize these efforts as occasional and targeted at the national level of policymaking (8 responses). DemNet, Partners Hungary Foundation, and, of course, the platform organization HAND define their advocacy work as regular and positioned on the national level, while three NGOs (BOCS Foundation, the National Society of Conservationists and the Hungarian Committee of UNICEF) focus their regular advocacy campaigns on the international level. As to the aim of their work, the responses show the following distribution:

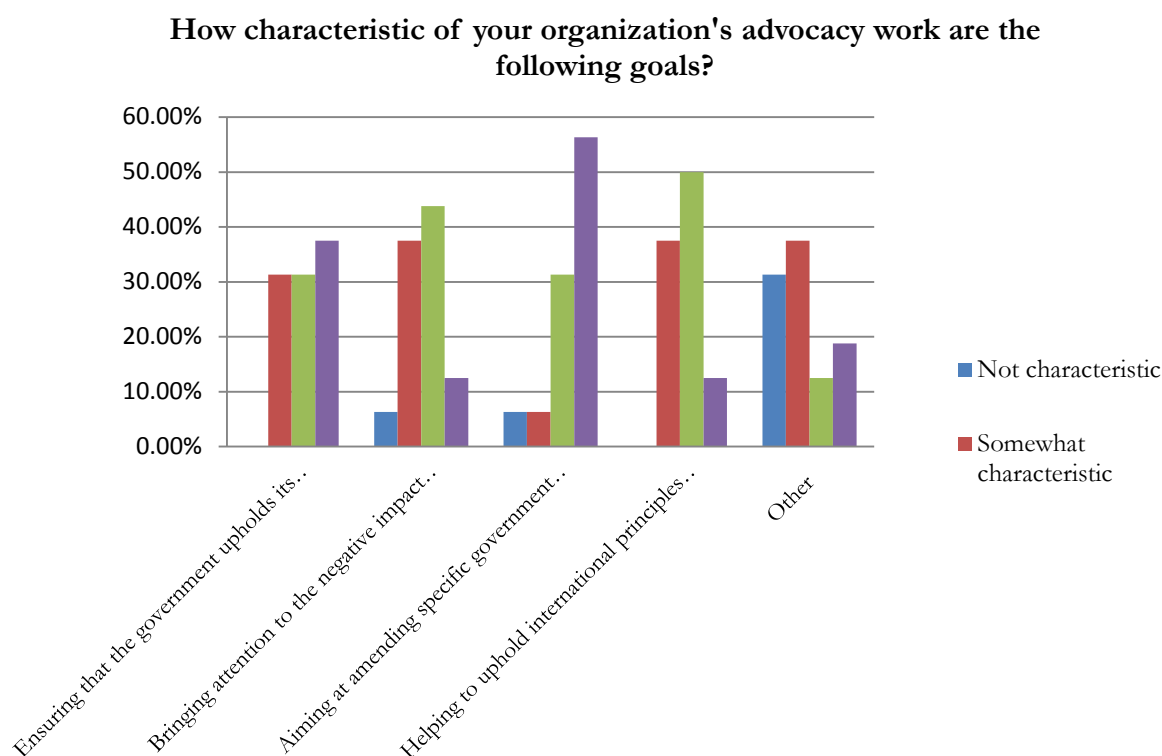


Figure 4

Signaling the central role of the NGO platform, most respondents say they carry out advocacy work in cooperation with other organizations working in the field, however, communicating research and analysis towards key decision-makers also featured as a popular form of advocacy.

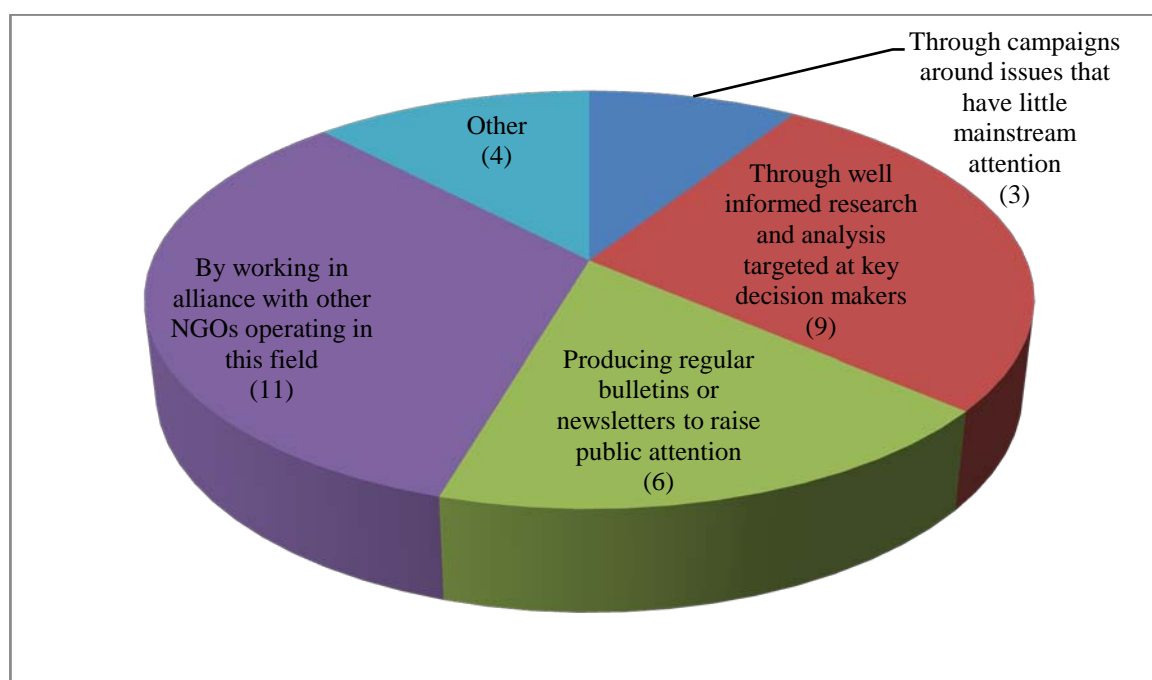


Figure 5: How does your organization try to influence official policies related to international development?

Among their chosen means of advocacy, media campaigns (9 responses), public awareness raising campaigns (9), scholarly publications (9), and presentations to governmental decision-makers (10) seem to be equally popular. As to the success of advocacy and lobbying, surveyed NGDOs think the best indicators would be specific amendments of official ODA policies and the resetting of government priorities (5 responses respectively).

While scarcity of resources certainly limits this role, instead of realizing development projects themselves in recipient countries, many organizations provide aid through **grant-making**. In our survey sample, 12 out of 29 respondents reported that their organization has provided grants in the past five years. While for some NGDOs this is a regular activity (once or twice a year typically), for others, particular needs or projects determine whether to employ grant-making, and thus there is no regularity to it.⁴² According to our respondents' account, grantees are both individuals and organizations – many times it is local CSOs that benefit from financial aid; some organizations give grants to Hungarian CSOs as a form of capacity building, while others resort to this form when there is no other way to help poor families or individuals. As the frequency and the rationale for grant-making are so diverse, defining the portion of their budgets that was allocated to grants is not meaningful. It could, however, be telling of the marginality of this function that 11 out of 17 NGDOs do not give out grants nor do they not wish to in the future.⁴³

3.3. NGDOs' financial and human resources

One of the most interesting findings was that the proportion of funding granted by individuals or private foundations to Hungarian NGDOs forms the largest portion of their budget and relative to

⁴²One exception is the Hungarian Committee of UNICEF, where grant-making happens on continuous bases.

⁴³Five were unsure about their plans and only one responded that making grants is among their future plans.

other resources, the share of private funding is significantly higher than for the Hungarian CSO sector in general.⁴⁴

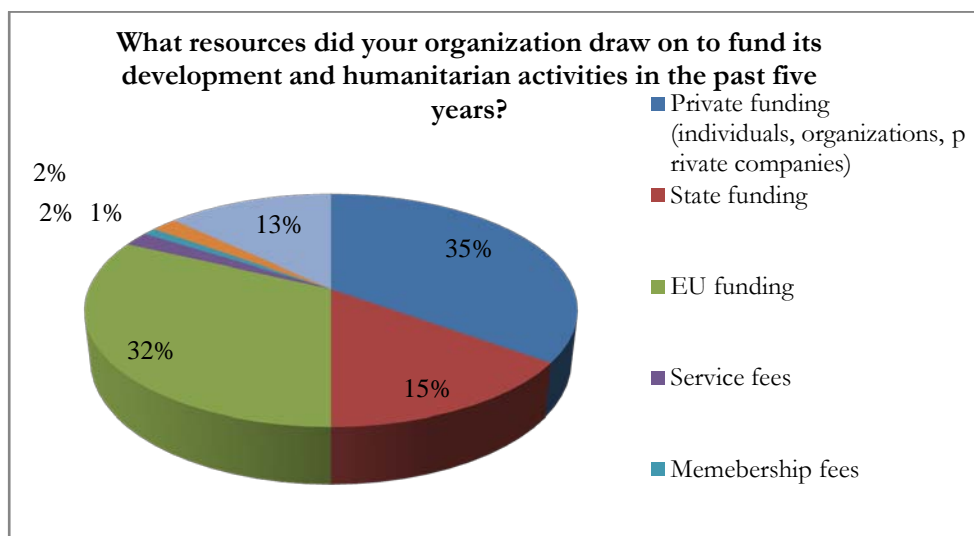


Figure 6⁴⁵

This distribution of resources is even more striking when we take into account that almost a third of the respondent organizations (9) do not collect private funds at all, while for seven of them, private funds have made up only between 1-25% of their budgets in the past five years. Yet, for another seven NGOs, 76-100% of their budget for development and humanitarian aid activities comes from this resource.

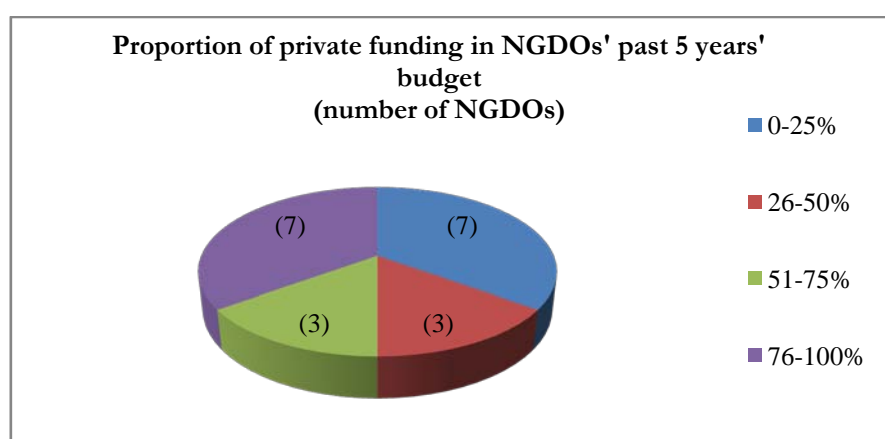


Figure 7

Taking a closer look at who these private donors are, we see that the majority of the NGOs receives funding from private individuals, while less than a quarter of the 19 NGOs who collect private funds reported that their main private donors are companies or private foundations. The private foundations are rarely connected to Hungarian private companies or corporations. More typically they refer to grants made

⁴⁴In the latter, the proportion of private funding is under 20% (Péter Nizák, Open Society Institute, Task Force meeting).

⁴⁵Due to the technical limitations of the online survey tool, the specification of "Other" was not available for respondents under this question.

by philanthropic organizations or individuals in old member-states or other Western countries.⁴⁶ This underscores the claim articulated in other parts of our research, that cooperative relationships between NGOs and private companies are almost non-existent in Hungary.⁴⁷

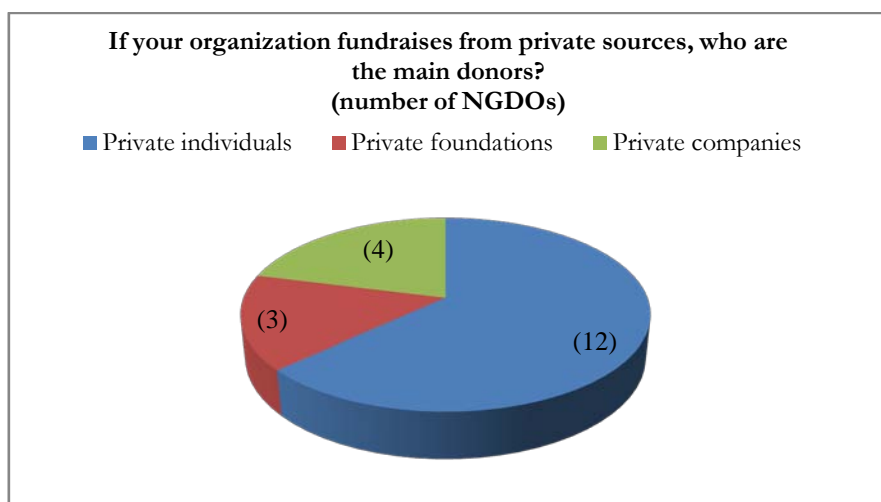


Figure 8

Based on these responses, our data does not support the claim that the significantly high proportion of private funding is due to donations that faith-based humanitarian organizations raise from their respective religious communities. In fact, only one of the major faith-based organizations reported that all of their international development and humanitarian budget comes from private resources, among which the main donors are private individuals. For the other three, the proportion of private donations in their development budget remains below 50%, and for one of them, the main private donors consist of private companies and not individuals. Based on our survey data, private individuals are much more crucial for smaller faith-based organizations (e.g. Dorcas Aid Hungary and Third World Foundation), and for secular NGOs with a focus on the African continent (as well as for the Hungarian Committee of UNICEF).⁴⁸

Among the most frequent methods of fundraising, respondents mention face to face encounters and personal contacts the most frequently (18 responses), but public fundraising events are also a popular tool (10). For those NGOs supporting orphanages and educational institutions, virtual adoption and/or student support programs are common schemes to collect private funding.⁴⁹ Raising funds in recipient countries is not very common. Only 5 out of our 29 respondents do so, while none of the others responded that they are planning to raise funds in developing countries in the future, 8 were undecided, and 16 were sure that they would not. For those who raise money or material support for their activities in recipient countries, such funds make up less than 25% of their overall budget for development and humanitarian aid activities.

⁴⁶Hoxtel, Preysing and Steets (2010); see further Bartha (2013).

⁴⁷An exception seems to be the African Hungarian Union (AHU), whose main supporter is its director, Sándor Balogh (AHU coordinator, email correspondence).

⁴⁸In retrospect, one limitation of our survey is that it did not enquire about real sums of available funding, e.g. how much NGOs spend on development projects and what proportion of their resources cover overhead expenses, thus this data does not allow for a detailed analysis of Hungarian NGO's financial operation.

⁴⁹The Baptist Aid also runs such programs in 11 countries (Romania, Haiti, India, Cambodia, Congo, Malawi, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, Serbia, and Vietnam).

In terms of available human resources, capacities are rather limited among Hungarian NGOs. While a large majority have full-time employees, their number is typically lower than 5, only in two cases does it go higher. Volunteers are relied upon by an equally high number (19) of organizations, and in five cases the whole staff is made up by volunteers. Where four organizations have more than 20 volunteers, in the majority of cases (11) their number remains below 5. Part-time employment and project-base contracts are deployed by around half of the organizations respectively, and it is only at UNICEF that their number exceeds 20. Otherwise both types of employment provide below 5 staff members of the respondent organizations.

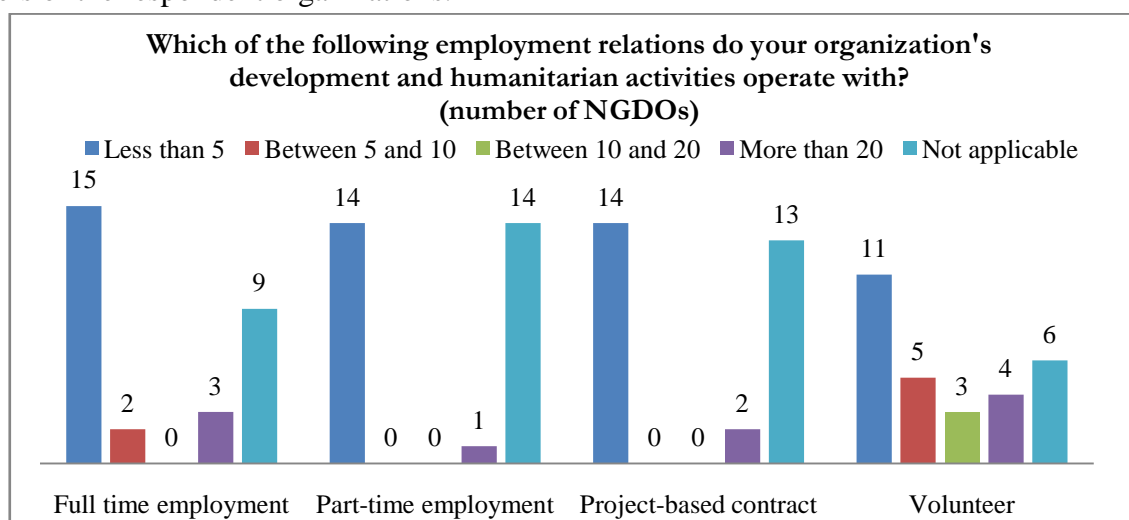


Figure 9

4. Understanding the challenges

Having outlined the general profile of the sector, this section enumerates the main challenges that prevent it from becoming a more significant agent of Hungary ODA activities.

4.1. Lack of political support

One of the most evident challenges to greater NGO involvement – one that was unanimously articulated by our interviewees and survey respondents– is the lack of support from government and the political elite in general. The general perception of NGO representatives is, and has been throughout the past decade, that the issue of international development carries no weight within political circles. Correspondingly, according to several of our informants, politicians lack even a basic knowledge about the function and the operation of ODA.⁵⁰ Resonating also with a point mentioned earlier –that international aid is hard to justify to voters in times of economic crisis – according to our respondents bilateral aid is among the “first victims” of budget cuts.⁵¹ Indeed, as one of HAND’s presidency members put it: “[The ODA] sector is still struggling for its survival, just like twenty years

⁵⁰ One of our Task Force participants recounted that following a speech she gave in the European Parliament as then board member of CONCORD, none of the politicians that came up to her to discuss the topic was Hungarian. As a member of the NGO delegate to the Hungarian Parliament’s Committee of Foreign Affairs committee added, at a recent meeting, MPs demonstrated a complete lack of information about ODA and how it works (Task Force meeting).

⁵¹ Terre des Hommes representative, Skype interview. On a related note, the MFA’s 2012 call for CSO’s participation in Official Development Assistance was only published in February 2013.

ago”.⁵² Making the already difficult situation worse, according to a leading development expert participating in our Task Force meeting, the current political atmosphere in Hungary does not favor forms of civic action pursued by NGOs in general.⁵³

Despite an unsupportive political context, however, in terms of dedication we have to distinguish between the political elite or government institutions in general, and the MFA’s Department of International Development and Humanitarian Aid. In reference to the latter, and especially with regards to the most recent past, interviewees recognize an increasing openness towards the civil sector, manifesting mostly in the growing number of forawhere NGDOs can articulate their concerns and share their expertise.⁵⁴ Thus, to qualify our diagnosis, the ODA sector’s struggle for survival applies to the responsible MFA department as well.⁵⁵ Hence respondents’ argued that many of the efforts of the International Development and Humanitarian Aid Department are thwarted by an unfavorable operational context where politicians and other MFA agencies do not recognize ODA as a legitimate means of foreign policy.⁵⁶ Illustrating this state of affairs is the fact that Hungary still does not have an official ODA strategy or a basic law that could integrate the topic into the framework of foreign policymaking.⁵⁷ However, in December 2012 the Hungarian Parliament’s Foreign Policy Committee finally adopted a resolution that sets a deadline for the formulation of a development strategy.⁵⁸ Whether that will be accompanied with an increase in the funds available for NGDOs’ involvement in ODA activities is, of course, difficult to predict.

4.2. Lack of public awareness

A second commonly cited obstacle to greater involvement in Hungary’s international development activities is the absence of popular interest in and support for NGDO activities. As discussed above, this condition is generally characteristic of the post-socialist region. NGDO representatives stressed the lingering sense of aid dependency and the impact of the current economic and financial crisis undermined their efforts to sensitize the public about poverty abroad. While representatives of humanitarian organizations report successful fundraising campaigns to support victims of natural or man-made disasters (e.g. the 2010 earthquake in Haiti or the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami), according to our respondents it is much more difficult to collect donations for development projects.⁵⁹

⁵² Research notes, 28 August 2012.

⁵³ Task Force meeting.

⁵⁴ HAND interview. According to another interviewee, this increasing openness is valid also in relation to NGDOs and experts focusing their work on Africa (AHU coordinator, email correspondence).

⁵⁵ Focus Group meeting.

⁵⁶ According to a Task Force participant this neglect is further sustained by the fact that Hungarian ODA never had “a face”, a personality that could raise the sector’s legitimacy. In addition, as in many other countries, there is a very high turnover in the NEFE Department’s staff.

⁵⁷ See also Leiszen (2013).

⁵⁸ See HAND (2012c). [Update: since the drafting of this report, on March 4th, 2013, the Resolution has been adopted by the Hungarian Parliament.]

⁵⁹ In response to a related question about the problem of resource drivenness, the coordinator of Dorcas Aid Hungary recounted a story about their 1% tax pledge campaign for a water provision project in an Ethiopian village. At one of their campaign events, a member of the audience asked if the money s/he donates would benefit “these black children”. Receiving an affirmative answer s/he said “Then I’ll give it to Loki [the local football team] instead!” While this campaign turned out to be unsuccessful, previous campaigns in support of solitary elderly people in Transylvania were much better supported.

Combined with low state funding for development projects,⁶⁰ the lack of public awareness in Hungary directly materializes in the scarcity of financial resources. In light of this, it is interesting that only 16 from 29 respondents thought that the aim of awareness raising was “very important” (while 12 thought it was rather important). This attitude could reflect previously mentioned experiences with awareness raising campaigns such as high costs and moderate returns. In addition, many believe less in short term awareness raising campaigns and more in long term investment into transforming the way people think about Hungary’s place in the world. Thus, global education, in providing the framework for opening up young citizens towards concerns of people in different parts of the world, seems to be a more attractive route to take.⁶¹ Yet, as lack of interests translates into NGOs’ financial constraints, in the short term it might be compensated by more inventive fundraising mechanisms – something that many organizations lack the capacity for at present.⁶²

4.3. Unequal relations with “Old” donors’ NGOs

A significant challenge that emerges mostly on the European level is the gap between old and new member-states’ NGOs’ capacities and possibilities. While Hungarian NGOs recognize that they are several years, or even decades, behind Western development organizations in terms of experience and achievement, when interacting or cooperating with their counterparts in old member-states, they often find that this gap is exacerbated by the latter’s patronizing attitude. Although several large humanitarian organizations have recurring partnerships with Western NGOs or development agencies (e.g. the Hungarian Interchurch Aid regularly cooperates with the DanChurchAid),⁶³ our respondents often believe that they are not being dealt with on an equal basis when it comes to planning or executing joint projects.⁶⁴

While such perceptions can reinforce existing inequalities, these differences have certainly come to be sharper during the recent economic downturn. With ODA budgets curtailed in almost all member-states, according to many respondents, competition for EU resources palpably intensified.⁶⁵ Under these circumstances, the weaker position of NGOs from new donor states is likely to increase. Most prominently, this applies to the difficulties of generating own funds as required by EuropeAid tenders.⁶⁶ As our respondent from Terre des Hommes – speaking also as the leader of a CONCORD Task Force – notes, NGOs from old member states’ are no longer receptive to the positive discrimination of new donors; they believe the distinction between old and new is no longer valid and

⁶⁰ The amount of ODA-funding that CSOs can apply for through the yearly calls of the MFA varies between HUF 120 and 200 million (cc. EUR 400 000 and 667 000). Individual organizations can usually apply for a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 20 million Forints (cc. EUR 17 000 and 67 000). See also Leiszen (2013).

⁶¹ E. g. AHU coordinator, email correspondence.; Dorcas Aid Hungary coordinator, email correspondence.

⁶² Terre des Hommes representative, Skype interview.

⁶³ Focus Group meeting.

⁶⁴ According to a Baptist Aid coordinator, during cooperative projects, the majority of her energies is wasted on trying to convince Western partners that “this is not the Netherlands”. What she finds puzzling is that these NGOs have been present in the developing world for decades, they cannot seem to manage differences within Europe; neither can they accept that although with a shorter history behind their back, this region’s NGOs also have achievements (Task Force meeting).

⁶⁵ Task Force meeting.

⁶⁶ In recent years a certain portion of MFA funds allocated to CSOs is earmarked for covering the requirement of own contribution within EuropeAid tenders.

the same conditions should apply to all.⁶⁷ The challenge of new member-states' NGOs' articulating a firm stance countering this one already takes us to the last point of this section.

4.4. Difficulties of supranational interest representation

The final challenge to be addressed is the lack of financial and human resources. Material differences and attitudinal patterns still structure the relations between old and new member-states' NGOs, and while such inequalities could be countered by successful interest representation within European platform organizations, most Hungarian organizations lack the resources to be actively present in such *fora*. Just like with EU-funding, the key to successful interest articulation seems to be constant presence in Brussels,⁶⁸ or, to be able to closely follow the activities of platforms such as CONCORD. As such are generally not available to Hungarian NGOs, they are routinely underrepresented in both the expert groups and the leadership.⁶⁹ Due to increased competition for funding, organizations from old member-states are not so interested in dismantling the status quo which can impede new member-states' organizations' lobbying for application schemes that could compensate for their deficient resources.⁷⁰ However, beyond the financial implications, it also obstructs the promotion of practices and ideas that could provide viable alternatives to a predominantly Western framework of civil society participation in international development.⁷¹

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1. Increasing the political profile of ODA through policy coherence

Although deploying development aid to promote foreign policy is not an ethically unquestionable practice, at the current state of Hungary's ODA activities, framing it as such could arguably benefit the area. Creating coherence between the country's foreign policy and foreign trade strategies, and harmonizing the forthcoming ODA strategy would render development aid more visible and thereby garner greater support among politicians. Heeding a frequent plea from NGOs and academic experts, greater coherence between these strategies might also decrease the number of initiatives and recipient countries, leading to a more concentrated and efficient funding schemes (see e.g. Hodosi 2012). While HAND representatives recount recent positive experiences with winning individual politicians for the issue of development through organizing field trips,⁷² at this point in time, strengthening ODA's foreign policy aspect might be more sustainable an approach.

5.2. Increasing public support for international development activities

The severely low level of public support for international development needs to be addressed more holistically than via costly and short-term sensitizing campaigns. As described above, the Hungarian

⁶⁷Terres des Hommes representative, Skype interview. Contributing to the mentioned overrepresentation of awareness raising activities, with a lower percentage of own funds required of NGOs from new member-states, cooperation between old and new is facilitated by EuropeAid applications in this area.

⁶⁸Focus Group meeting.

⁶⁹ This state of affairs was underlined by an international aid coordinator of Baptist Aid. It was, however, qualified by former HAND-coordinator and NGO expert Réka Balogh: during the "high point" of HAND's operation, 7-8 members were regularly attending CONCORD Work Group meetings, and other new member states' national platforms are even more active.

⁷⁰Terre des Hommes representative.

⁷¹For example, as Baptist Aid's representative argued, NGOs in NMS can realize development and humanitarian aid projects much more cost efficiently, simply because, among other conditioning factors, they are not accustomed to high rates of staff remuneration (Task Force meeting).

⁷²HAND representative interview; Focus Group meeting.

NGDO sector possess sufficient capacities to facilitate the integration of global education programs into curricula at different levels of public education. In addition, catering for increasing interest,⁷³ greater awareness could be fostered through introducing development and humanitarian aid degree programs into higher education. In turn, such programs would gradually develop NGOs' and governmental institutions' capacities by providing qualified workforce.⁷⁴

5.3. Leveling the relationship between NGOs in old and new member-states

As suggested above, the intensifying competition for EU-resources among development organizations of both old and new donor-states contributes to sustaining the inequality between the two. On the one hand, further capacity building programs (such as the ones [Trialog](#) has been providing since 2000) and incentives for cooperation between experienced Western NGOs and those of the EU12 (such as the lower own funding requirement applied for cooperation in awareness raising projects) should be put into place. On the other hand, for such measures to gain greater legitimacy, new member states' NGOs need to be equipped with the capacities and resources to be active and able to represent their interests in EU-level NGO platforms and related institutions. Among others, financial means to support operational expenses of new donor's organizations should be provided by government and/or EU-institutions.

Another option that emerged throughout this research was the institutionalization of a strong framework of cooperation between development actors of this region, building on the positive experiences of the Visegrad Four partnership. While such cooperation already exists among NGOs of this region,⁷⁵ our respondents agreed that it could be strengthened by the involvement of governmental agencies and the private sector. Thus, development actors of the Central-East European region would form an entity with the potential to mutually strengthen the capacities of countries with very similar ODA profiles, at the same time rendering them more visible as donors.⁷⁶

5.4. Fostering cooperation with the private sector

Although the economic and financial crisis clearly has a negative impact on Hungarian private companies, encouraging cooperation with the NGO sector can be mutually beneficial.⁷⁷ Through partnership, NGOs would gain access to financial resources, while private companies could expand their activities to new markets. In order to enable this interaction, actors – including governmental agencies – should create possibilities for discussion, so as business actors' lack of information about international development, as well as the civil sector's possible suspicions about the interest-driven approach of private companies can be addressed.

⁷³Task Force meeting.

⁷⁴AHU coordinator, email correspondence.

⁷⁵See primarily the [V4Aid](#) project. The Hungarian participant of the cooperation is DemNet.

⁷⁶Such a regional entity could lobby for receiving a portion of all member-states' contributions towards the European Development Funds, thus gaining more resources for bilateral as opposed to multilateral aid, and hence larger control over the allocation of resources.

⁷⁷See further Bartha (2013).

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List of Annexes

- **Annex 1:** NGDO Database of the research
- **Annex 2:** Survey Questionnaire in English
- **Annex 3:** Summary Report in English
- **Annex 4:** List of Participants – Focus Group Meeting
- **Annex 5:** List of Participants – Task Force Meeting

Annex 1: NGDO Database of the Research

No	CSO	Umbrella (HU)	Website
1	ADRA AdventistaFejlesztésiésSegélyszervezet	n.a.	http://www.adra.hu/index.php
2	AfrikaertAlapítvány (Foundation for Africa)	HAND, MAP	http://afrikaert.hu/hu/
3	Afrikai-Magyar Egyesület (African-Hungarian Union)	HAND	http://www.ahu.hu/
4	AnthropolisEgyesület (Anthropolis Anthropological Public Benefit Association)	HAND	www.anthropolis.hu
5	ArtemisszióAlapítvány (Artemissio Foundation)	HAND	http://www.artemisszio.hu
6	AutonómiaAlapítvány	n.a.	http://autonomia.hu/hu/programok/sims-projekt-tarsadalmi-innovacio-kolcsonos-tanulas-illetve-kisosszegu-megtakaritasok-euro
7	BaptistaSzeretetszolgálatAlapítvány (Hungarian Baptist Aid)	n.a.	http://baptistasegely.hu/the-history-of-hungarian-baptist-aid?lang=en
8	BMVA-BékésMegyéértVállalkozásfejlesztésiAlapítvány	n.a.	http://www.bmva.hu/
9	BOCS Alapítvány	(HAND)	http://bocs.hu
10	CEE Web for Biodiversity (Hun: BOCS Alapítvány, Ecolinst, Green Action (Miskolc), MTVSZ, NimfeaEgyesület (Túrkeve)	n.a.	http://www.ceeweb.org/members/full-members/
11	DemokratikusAtalkulástInteztet (ICDT, International Center for Democratic Transition)	n.a.	http://www.icdt.hu/
12	DemokratikusJogokFejlesztéseértAlapítvány (DemNet)	HAND, MAP	www.demnet.org.hu
13	DorcasSegélyszervezet - Magyarország	n.a.	http://www.dorcas.hu/
14	Ebony AfrikaiKulturálisMűvészetiésEmberiJogiEgyesület	MAP	http://www.afroproductions.hu/ebony.html
15	Európai Nonprofit JogiKözpont (European Center for Not-for-profit Law)	HAND	www.ecnl.org
16	FaipariTudományosEgyesület	n.a.	http://www.erfaret.hu/imagebase/7a66a678/faipar201034.pdf
17	Global Water Partnership - Hungary	n.a.	http://www.gwpmo.hu
18	Green Cross Hungary	n.a.	http://www.greencrossinternational.net/
19	HAND (NemzetköziHumanitáriusésFejlesztési Civil Szövetség) -- umbrella organization		www.hand.org.hu
20	HarmadikVilágAlapítvány (Third World Foundation)	n.a.	http://www.bokoralap.hu/HVA/rolunk.html
21	HELP NemzetköziOrvosiAlapítvány	n.a.	n.a.
22	Híd a HarmadikVilághoz (Hid Alapítvány)	HAND	http://www.harmadikvilag.hu/
23	Jesuit Refugee Service	n.a.	http://www.jrs.net/about
24	Kárpátaljai Magyar FőiskolaértAlapítvány	n.a.	http://www.kmf.uz.ua/hun114/index.php/karpataljai-fiskolaert-alapitvany.html
25	KárpátokAlapítványMagyarország (Carpathian Foundation Hungary)	n.a.	http://www.karpatokalapitvany.hu/en/node/1
26	KatolikusKáritász	HAND	http://www.karitasz.hu/
27	MagosfaAlapítvány	n.a.	http://magosfa.hu
28	Magyar MaltaiSzeretetszolgálatEgyesület	HAND	www.maltai.hu
29	Magyar OkumenikusSegélyszervezet (HIA - Hungarian Interchurch Aid)	n.a.	www.segelyszervezet.hu
30	Magyar ÖnkéntesküldőAlapítvány (Hungarian Volunteer Sending Foundation)	HAND	http://www.hvsf.hu
31	Magyar ReformátusSzeretetszolgálatKözhasznúAlapítvány (Hungarian Reformed Church Aid Public Benefit Foundation)	HAND (applied for membership)	http://www.jobbadni.hu/index.php?lang=en

32	Magyar Természetvédők Szövetsége (National Society of Conservationists -- Friends of the Earth Hungary)	n.a.	www.mtvsh.hu
33	Mahatma Gandhi Egyesület	HAND	http://www.gandhi.hu/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1
34	Maholnap Magyar Jóléti Alapítvány	n.a.	http://maholnap.hu/en/our_goal.php
35	MAP- Magyar Afrika Platform (umbrella organization)		http://www.afrikaplatform.hu/
36	MDAC - Mental Disability Advocacy Center (Mentális Sérültek Jogaiért Alapítvány)	n.a.	www.mdac.info
37	Menedék (Hungarian Association for Migrants)	n.a.	http://menedek.hu
38	Mezőtláb Alapítvány (Barefoot Foundation)	n.a.	http://www.mezotlabafrikaban.hu/
39	Minority Rights Group Europe	n.a.	http://www.minorityrights.org/425/campaigns/development-human-rights-and-poverty.html
40	Munkaadók és Gyáriparosok Országos Szövetsége (Confederation of Hungarian Employers and Industrialists)	n.a.	http://www.mgyosz.hu/en/index.php?fo=2&al=2
41	Napfelkelte Alapítvány	n.a.	http://www.napfelkelte.hu/bemutakozas/projektek
42	Nesst - Nonprofit Enterprise and Self-sustainability Team [HU Regional Office]	n.a.	http://www.nesst.org
43	OSI - Hungary	n.a.	http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/
44	Önkéntes Központ Alapítvány	n.a.	http://www.oka.hu
45	Partners Hungary Alapítvány	n.a.	http://www.partnershungary.hu/
46	Project Hope [HU branch]	n.a.	www.projecthope.hu
47	REC - Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe	n.a.	http://www.rec.org/
48	Reflex Környezetvédő Egyesület (Reflex Environmental Association)	n.a.	http://reflex.gyor.hu/
49	RI - Relief International [HU branch]	n.a.	http://www.ri.org/index.php
50	RSCJ - Szent Szív Társaság (Religious of the Sacred Heart)	n.a.	http://www.szentszivitarsasag.hu/
51	Segítő Jobb	n.a.	http://www.sja.hu/fooldal.html
52	TAITA Alapítvány Afrikai Gyerekekért	MAP	http://www.taita.info/
53	Terres des Hommes	n.a.	http://tdh-childprotection.org/projects/great
54	Transylvania Caritas	n.a.	n.a.
55	UNICEF Magyar Bizottsága [National Committee]	HAND	www.unicef.hu
56	Útilapú (Service Civil International Hungary)	n.a.	http://www.utilapu.org/
57	Vedegylet	n.a.	http://www.vedegylet.hu/
58	YFU - Youth for understanding	n.a.	http://www.yfu.hu/hu/YFU/szervezet.html
59	ZöldFiatalok Egyesülete	HAND	www.zofi.hu

Color code
Filled the survey
Was contacted but did not fill the survey
Survey did not apply for them but contributed otherwise (e.g. interview)
Could not be contacted (inactive), or the survey was not applicable for their activities

Annex 2: Survey Questionnaire in English

The Role of the Hungarian Civil Society Organizations in International Development

The present questionnaire is a methodological instrument of an international research project funded by EuropeAid. Its purpose is to investigate the different roles that civic organizations play in supporting development. Your response to this survey will help map out the status-quo of international development in Hungary, the part your NGO plays in it and, hopefully, contribute towards enhancing cooperation between the various actors of development.

The questionnaire is broken down into the following eight short sections:

1. General information
2. Development activities
3. Service provider
4. Raising funds
5. Public awareness raising
6. Influencing policy
7. Human resources
8. Donors

The survey takes approximately 20 minutes. The questions have no right or wrong answers. Our research is dependent on your cooperation and the honesty of your responses so please allow enough time to complete it. Thank you!

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1) Information about the respondent

First Name*: _____

Last Name*: _____

Position in the organization*: _____

Name of the Organization*: _____

Year when first legally registered*: _____

Email*: _____

Website: _____

II. DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

2) Has your organization carried out or is currently carrying out development activities?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If so, in what fields is your organization active?

Please select the areas where your organization is most active.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poverty reduction (MDG 1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental sustainability (MDG 7) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education (MDG 2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Training/consulting of stakeholders in recipient countries (MDG 8) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gender equality (MDG 3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health (MDGs 4-6) | |

3) Which country/countries outside of Hungary have you been working in the past five years? Please list all the countries where your organization had and/or currently has activities.

III. SERVICE PROVIDER

4) Has your organization managed or is currently managing development projects?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, what is/was the average length of the development projects of your organization? Please estimate the number of weeks, months or years.

If your organization manages or has managed development projects in the past, please answer the following questions.

	Never	Sometimes	Regularly	Not applicable
Do you work with international relief agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you work with local authorities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you work with local CSOs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

5) Has your organization worked and/or is currently working in the area of disaster relief and reconstruction?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, what is the average length of intervention? Please estimate the number of weeks, months, years.

Do you have an in-house capacity to react within 72hrs?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If your organization worked or is currently working in the area of disaster relief and reconstruction, please answer to the following questions.

	Never	Sometimes	Regularly	Not applicable
Do you work with international relief agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you work with local authorities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you work with local CSOs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IV. FUNDRAISING

6) What have been the sources of funding for your organization's development and humanitarian aid activities in the past 5 years? Please give an approximate amount of their share in your budget and make sure the total does not exceed 100%.

	Share in %
Private Donations (Individual or Group)	___
Government Grant	___
Payment for Services	___
Membership fees	___
Tax assignments	___
Other	___

7) If your organization fundraises from private sources, who are the main donors? Please select one option only.

☐ Individuals

☐ Private foundations

☐ Private companies

☐ Not applicable

8) What methods do you use to fundraise? Select all that apply.

☐ Public and charity events

☐ Face to face

☐ Direct mailing

☐ Selling products/Webshop

☐ School activities

☐ Other, please specify:

☐ Media campaigns

☐ Not applicable

9) What do you consider is your organization's strongest points in fund raising? Please select one option only.

☐ Good public image/reputation of your organization

☐ Strong partner for other stakeholders

☐ Large volunteer base for fundraising

☐ Other, please specify: _____*

10) Do you fundraise in the countries that you work in?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If so, what methods do you use? Select all that apply.

☐ Public and Charity events

☐ Face to face

☐ Direct mailing

☐ Selling products/Webshop

☐ School activities

☐ Other, please specify:

☐ Media campaigns

If you raise funds in your partner countries, could you please give an approximate amount of the share of these funds in your budget? Please select one option only.

☐ Less than 10%

☐ Between 25-50%

☐ Between 10-25%

☐ More than 50%

Does your organization have future plans to fundraise in the countries where it works?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ I don't know

V. PUBLIC AWARENESS RAISING

11) How important are the following goals for your organization?

	Not important	Somewhat important	Rather important	Very important
To enhance the level of awareness about the issue of development.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To establish a basis of popular support for development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To increase the number of volunteers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To provide support for change in official policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12) Is your organization involved in raising public awareness on development issues in Hungary?

☐ Yes

☐ No

How does your organization try to promote greater public awareness on development issues? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> By starting proactive campaigns around issues that have little mainstream attention | <input type="checkbox"/> Producing regular bulletins or newsletters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> By offering quick and well informed reactions to stories that make the news | <input type="checkbox"/> By regularly supplying stories to journalists |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> By more occasional and ad hoc interventions |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: |

What type of activities is your organization using to promote development issues? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Media, public relations and campaign | |

Who is the main target audience(s) for your organization? Select up to three of the most important.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young people | <input type="checkbox"/> Trade Unions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opinion leaders in the media | <input type="checkbox"/> Educators |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Associations | <input type="checkbox"/> No specific target |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government/local officials | |

On which level would you locate the audience that your awareness raising work targets? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Local (county level and below) | <input type="checkbox"/> European |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National level | <input type="checkbox"/> International |

By what measure would you rate the success or the impact of your awareness raising work? Please select one option only.

- ☐ Public debate/ discourse changed
- ☐ Increase in material support to your organization (for example, volunteers, donations, etc.)
- ☐ Development issues become part of the official education curricula
- ☐ Increasing number of NGOs working in the development sector
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____*

If not, could you explain briefly why not?

Is your organization planning to get involved in awareness on development issues in the future?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ I don't know

13) Does your organization carry out awareness raising work in the country/countries in which you operate?

☐ Yes

☐ No

How does your organization try to promote greater public awareness of development issues in these countries? Select all that apply.

☐ By starting proactive campaigns around issues that have little mainstream attention

☐ By offering quick and well informed reactions to stories that make the news

☐ Producing regular bulletins or newsletters

☐ By regularly supplying stories to journalists

☐ By more occasional and ad hoc interventions

☐ Depends on the type of project

☐ Other, please specify:

What type of activities do you use to promote development issues in the countries you operate in? Select all that apply.

☐ Public Events

☐ Training

☐ Publications

☐ Other, please specify:

☐ Media, public relations and campaign

Who would you say is/are your main target audience/s in the country/countries you operate in? Select up to three of the most important.

☐ Young people

☐ Trade Unions

☐ Opinion leaders in the media

☐ Educators

☐ Professional Associations

☐ No specific target

☐ Businesses

☐ Other, please specify:

☐ Government/local officials

By what measure would you rate the success or the impact of your awareness raising work in the countries that you operate in?

Please select one option only.

☐ Public debate/discourse changed

☐ Increase in material support to your organization (e.g., volunteers, donations, etc.)

- ☐ Development issues become part of the official education curricula
- ☐ Increasing number of NGOs working in the development sector
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____*

If not, could you explain briefly why not?

Is your organization planning to carry out awareness raising work in the country/countries in which you operate in the future?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know
-

VI. INFLUENCING POLICY

14) Is your organization involved in advocacy activities to change public policy?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, how would you describe your organization's advocacy work?

Please select one option only.

- ☐ On an ad hoc and case by case level, targeting national audiences
- ☐ On an ad hoc and case by case level, targeting international audiences
- ☐ On a regular basis and targeting national audiences
- ☐ On a regular basis, targeting international audiences
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____*

How characteristic of your organization's advocacy work are the following goals?

	Not characteristic	Somewhat characteristic	Rather characteristic	Very characteristic
Ensuring that the government upholds its commitments for supporting development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bringing attention to the negative impact of national/regional or international public policies on development and the need for reform	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aiming at amending specific government policies toward development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Helping to uphold international	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

principles of development cooperation in national or EU level				
Other	()	()	()	()

How does your organization try to influence public policies towards development issues? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Through campaigns around issues that have little mainstream attention
- ☐ Through well informed research and analysis targeted at key decision makers
- ☐ Producing regular bulletins or newsletters to raise public attention
- ☐ By working in alliance with other NGOs operating in this field
- ☐ Other

Who would you say are your main supporters in advocating for changes in policy? Select up to three of the most important.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young people | <input type="checkbox"/> Trade Unions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opinion leaders in the media | <input type="checkbox"/> Educators |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Associations | <input type="checkbox"/> No specific target |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Government/local officials | |

15) By what measure would you rate the success or the impact of your advocacy work?

Please select one option only.

- ☐ Public debate/discourse changed
- ☐ Development issues become part of the official education curricula
- ☐ Specific amendments to government policy
- ☐ Resetting of government priorities
- ☐ Increase in government budget allocated
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____*

Please tell us in couple of words why your organization does not get involved in advocacy activities.

Is your organization you planning to engage in advocacy activities in the future?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I don't know

VII. HUMAN RESOURCES

16) Which of the following employment relations does your organization's development and/or humanitarian projects operate with? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Full-time staff ☐ Contracted project based staff
☐ Part-time staff ☐ Volunteers

17) How many people does your organization employ on these bases?

	Less than 5	Between 5-10	Between 10-20	Above 20	Not applicable
Full-time staff	()	()	()	()	()
Part-time staff	()	()	()	()	()
Contracted project based staff	()	()	()	()	()
Volunteers	()	()	()	()	()

18) How is your organization recruiting volunteers for its work in Hungary? Select all that apply.

- ☐ By word of mouth ☐ Advertising in national media
☐ By organizing public events ☐ With the help of volunteer recruiting organizations
☐ Advertising in schools and universities ☐ Other, please specify:
☐ Advertising in local newspapers ☐ Not applicable

19) What are the responsibilities of the volunteers within your organization? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Fundraising ☐ Training
☐ Advocacy work ☐ Not applicable
☐ Providing Services ☐ Other, please specify
☐ Mentoring and Counseling

20) Does your organization recruit local volunteers to work in the country/countries it operates in?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

How is your organization recruiting local volunteers in recipient countries? Select all that apply.

- ☐ By word of mouth ☐ Advertising in national media
☐ By organizing public events ☐ With the help of volunteer recruiting organizations
☐ Advertising in schools and universities ☐ Other, please specify:
☐ Advertising in local newspapers

What are the responsibilities of the local volunteers? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Fundraising ☐ Advocacy work

☐ Providing Services

☐ Training

☐ Mentoring and Counseling

☐ Other, please specify

Could you please tell us why your organization is not recruiting local volunteers?

Is your organization planning to recruit local volunteers in the future?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ I don't know

VIII. GRANT-MAKING

21) Does your organization provide grants?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If so, how often did your organization give out grants in the past 5 years?

(e.g. once a year, once a month, every project has a grant giving components, 4 times in the past 5 years, etc.)

Who is the recipient of your organization's grants?

☐ Individuals

☐ Organizations

☐ Both

What proportion of the organization's annual funds would you estimate are used for grants?

☐ Less than 10%

☐ More than 50%

☐ Between 10-25%

☐ Not applicable

☐ Between 25-50%

What would you say was the main purpose of the grants your organization provided so far? Please describe briefly.

Do you see this activity as increasing significantly in the near future

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ I don't know

Could you please explain us briefly why your organization is not giving grants?

Are you planning to make grants in the future?

☐ Yes

- ☐ No
☐ I don't know
-

RECOMMENDATIONS

22) Do you have any further suggestions or comments?

23) We plan to share and discuss the findings of this survey as well as disseminate information on our research with all interested parties. If you are interested in staying updated about the current role of civil society and private sector as development actors, please select yes and provide us with an email address where we can reach you.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Please write your email here

Thank You!

Thank you very much for your time and consideration in completing this questionnaire. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Annex 3: Summary Report in Hungarian

Available from CPS website: https://cps.ceu.hu/sites/default/files/field_attachment/news/node-34300/SummaryReport_29complete-answers_Jan.2013.pdf

Annex 4: List of Participants – Focus Group Meeting

ODA Project, CSO Focus Group meeting

January 15, 2013

CEU Nádor u. 13, Room 002

List of participants:

- Róbert Hodosi (DemNet)
- Ákos Nagy (Hungarian Interchurch Aid)
- Győző Orbán, Dr. (HELP International Medical Foundation)
- Andrea Szegedi (TAITA Foundation for African Children)
- András Tétényi (Corvinus University of Budapest)
- Péter Vitényi and Tamás Orosz (MFA, Department for International Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid)

CEU:

- Selmeczi Anna
- Alexandra Lazau-Ratz

Annex 5: List of Participants – Task Force Meeting

CPS ODA-project – CSO Task Force Meeting

31 January 2013
CEU, Senate Room

List of Participants:

- Baczkó Zsuzsanna (Baptist Aid)
- Balogh Réka (independent expert)
- Gedeon Tímea (HAND)
- Horváthné Angyal Boglárka (Baptist Aid)
- Kékesi Annamária (International Centre for Democratic Transition, ICDT)
- Dr. Kiss Judit (Hungarian Academy of Sciences, MTA)
- Nizák Péter (Open Society Foundations)

CEU:

- Selmeczi Anna
- Alexandra Lazau-Ratz